Inventor: Vasilios Toutountzis

Application in

Application No.: 09/425,271

Please amend the paragraph at column 8, lines 1-14, as follows:

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It is also to be understood that the beam 12 as shown in FIG. 6 can be replaced by a case in situ or precast wall or similar upwardly extending member. In such an arrangement the barrier strip can be installed as shown in FIG. 6 or each marginal edge portion of the barrier strip 15 can be embedded in the slab and upright member respectively during casting of each or can be embedded in one and adhered or bonded to the other. In constructions where the slab and other member are cast separately, it is preferable to provide a re-entrant fold [21] 24 extending the length of the barrier strip 15 to provide the ability for limited freedom of movement between the structural members without fracture of the barrier strip.

Please amend the paragraph at column 5, lines 45-59, as follows:

Referring now to FIGs. 1 and 2a-2c of the drawings, the termite barrier is in the form of a woven mesh 10 made of corrosion resistant stainless steel wires or filaments such as 304 grade stainless steel. The termite barrier may also include a flexible moisture impervious plastic sheet 121 formed to the woven mesh 10. Preferably, both sides of the woven mesh 10 are covered by a plastic sheet 121. The woven filaments form a series of pores or openings 15 in the mesh which are of a generally rectangular shape with the distance between the two more closely spaced sides 16 of the rectangle and the diagonal thereof is less than the maximum cross sectional dimensions of the head of the species of termite in respect of which the mesh is to form a barrier (FIG.2c). For instance, the soldier termite of species Mastotermes darwiniensis, of northern Australia, has a maximum head width of 3.25mm. To form a termite barrier for Mastotermes darwiniensis, the distance between the two more closely spaced sides 16 of the rectangle and the diagonal thereof should be 3.25mm or less.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please reinstate claims 9-20, and amend claims 1, 9, 12-14, 17, 18, 20, and 25 as

follows:

(Twice Amended) A termite barrier which is substantially resistant to termite chewing and corrosion, the termite barrier comprising[/] a mesh sheet formed of a material [resistant to

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